

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 STR-08 SPC-03

AID-20 NSC-07 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 OMB-01

CEA-02 COME-00 INT-08 XMB-07 OPIC-12 OIC-04 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 NIC-01

FEA-02 DRC-01 GSA-02 /205 W
----- 008970

P R 061540Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9574

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

JEMBASSY PARAMARIBO 10

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

USINT ALGIERS

USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 CONAKRY 0342/1

EO. 11652: N/A

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TAGS: EMIN

SUBJECT: BAUXITE PRODUCERS CONFERENCE

1. SUMMARY. BAUXITE PRODUCERS CONFERENCE OPENED AT EXPERT LEVEL ON MARCH 1. EXPERTS STILL WORKING ON DRAFT OF CHARTER WHEN MINISTERIAL MEETINGS BEGAN MARCH 5, WITH ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT TOURE. THEME OF TOURE SPEECH WAS THAT PRODUCERS MUST UNITE TO CHANGE PRESENT TERMS OF TRADE AND ASSURE THEIR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BY TRANSFORMING RAW MATERIALS INTO FINISHED PRODUCTS IN COUNTRIES WHERE ORE IS MINED. TOURE ADVOCATED ASSURANCES OF ACCESS TO RAW MATERIALS FOR INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND RECOGNIZED RIGHT OF JUST RETURN FOR INVESTORS. WITHOUT CLAIMING RIGHT FOR PRODUCERS TO SET PRICES UNILATERALLY HE ATTACKED PRESENT SYSTEM OF "UNILATERAL" PRICE FIXING BY "MONOPOLY" OF CONSUMERS. HE DID NOT MENTION PRODUCTION CONTROLS. END SUMMARY.

2. PRELIMINARY MEETING OF EXPERTS FROM NON-ALIGNED BAUXITE PRODUCING COUNTRIES SCHEDULED BEGIN MARCH 1, ACTUALLY STARTED ONE DAY LATER DUE TO FAILURE SOME PARTICIPANTS TO APPEAR ON TIME. EXPERTS SPENT FIRST DAY VISITING SOVIET BAUXITE MINING SITE AT KINDIA AND FOLLOWING DAY BEGAN DISCUSSIONS ON DRAFT CHARTER FOR PRODUCERS' ORGANIZATION. AUSTRALIAN DELEGATE HAS COMMENTED TO ANOTHER FOREIGN DIPLOMAT WITH WHOM EMBOFFS SPOKE THAT FIRST DRAFT UNACCEPTABLE

TO AUSTRALIANS AND THAT SECOND DRAFT, WHICH WENT FAR TOWARD MEETING AUSTRALIAN POSITION, HAD BEEN PREPARED. AUSTRALIAN WOULD NOT DISCUSS SPECIFIC POINTS AT ISSUE BUT SAID THAT AUSTRALIANS WANTED CHARTER THAT WOULD PROVIDE FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN PRODUCING COUNTRIES BUT NOT FOR COORDINATED ACTION BY PRODUCERS. OTHER UNNAMED DELEGATIONS PUSHING FOR MORE ACTIVIST SUBSTANTIVE TYPE DRAFT. (GUINEAN PARTICIPANT IN MEETINGS COMMENTED THAT AUSTRALIANS BEING DUBBED AS DEFENDERS OF "CONSUMERS INTERESTS.") BY TIME MINISTERIAL SESSIONS OPENED ON MARCH 5 EXPERTS HAD STILL NOT AGREED ON DRAFT CHARTER.

3. MINISTERIAL SESSION OPENED BY GUINEAN MINISTER OF MINES AND GEOLOGY LAMINE TOURE WHO ANNOUNCED THAT SIERRA LEONE HAD BEEN ADMITTED AS FULL MEMBER OF ORGANIZATION AND ALGERIA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AS OBSERVER. PARTICIPATING AS FULL MEMBERS ARE AUSTRALIA (11 DELEGATES, HEADED BY HIGH COMMISSIONER FROM OTTAWA, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FELL ILL IN BRUSSELS AND DID NOT COME); GUINEA (24 DELEGATES, HEADED BY MINISTER OF ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES); JAMAICA (12 DELEGATES, HEADED BY MINISTER OF MINES AND NATURAL RESOURCES); SURINAM (6 DELEGATES, HEADED BY MINISTER OF CONSTRUCTION); YUGOSLAVIA (4 DELEGATES, HEADED BY MEMBER OF FEDERAL

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, MADAM KRISTINIC); AND SIERRA LEONE
(3 DELEGATES, HEADED BY MINISTER OF MINES). OBSERVER
DELEGATIONS ARE FROM ALGERIA (3 DELEGATES, HEADED BY
ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO GUINEA); CAMEROON (2 DELEGATES, HEADED BY
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MINES); GHANA (2 DELEGATES,
HEADED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE ALUMINUM INDUSTRY EXECUTIVE);
AND MALI (ONE DELEGATE, WHOSE TITLE WAS NOT GIVEN). REST
OF LAMINE TOURE'S SPEECH WAS USUAL EXCESSIVE DEFERENCE TO
PRESIDENT TOURE THAT IS REQUIRED IN GUINEA. CHIEF OF
YUGOSLAVIAN DELEGATION ON BEHALF OF ALL DELEGATIONSTHANKED TOURE
FOR HIS HOSPITALITY IN HOSTING CONVERENCE AND HEAPEDTHE USUAL
LAVISH PRAISES ON HIM AS GREAT REVOLUTIONARY LEADER.

4. MAIN EVENT OF OPENING SESSION WAS ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT
SEKOU TOURE. AS USUAL WITH TOURE, SPEECH WAS STRONG EMOTIONAL
MARXIST INTERPRETATION OF EVENTS, WITH ATTACKS ON CAPITALISM,
IMPERIALISM, ETC. MAIN POINTS RELATIVE TO GUINEAN POSITION
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ACTION EB-11

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AID-20 NSC-07 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 OMB-01

CEA-02 COME-00 INT-08 XMB-07 OPIC-12 OIC-04 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 NIC-01

FEA-02 DRC-01 GSA-02 /205 W
----- 009735

P R 061540Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9575
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
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AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMDOBASSY PARIS 1734
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY YAOUTFE
USINT ALGIERS
USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 CONAKRY 0342/2

E.O. 11652: N/A
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TAGS: EMIN
SUBJECT: BAUXITE PRODUCERS CONFERENCE

B. BY REDRESSING TERMS OF TRADE PRODUCERS ORGANIZATION WILL
HELP SOLVE BASIC PROBLEM CAUSING TENSION BETWEEN DEVELOPED
AND DEVELOPING WORLD;

C. PRODUCING COUNTRIES, SUPPLIERS OF CAPITAL AND CONSUMERS
ALL HAVE RIGHT TO EQUITABLE SATISFACTION AND MUST WORK
TOGETHER TO BRING ABOUT CHANGE IN PRESENT STATE OF RELATIONSHIPS;

D. INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES HAVE RIGHT OF ACCESS TO RAW
MATERIALS BUT BENEFITS FROM EXPLOITATION MUST BE "STRICTLY
RECIPROCAL;"

E. PRESENT PRICING SYSTEM FOR BAUXITE IS UNILATERALLY
DETERMINED BY MONOPOLY CONSUMERS AND THIS SYSTEM
MUST BE CHANGED TO ONE OF CONSULTATION BETWEEN CONSUMERS AND
PRODUCERS.

F. IF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PRODUCING BAUXITE ARE EVER TO
INDUSTRIALIZE THEY MUST BEGIN TRANSFORMING RAW MATERIAL
INTO FINISHED PRODUCT AT HOME, EXPORT FINISHED PRODUCTS
AND THEREBY EARN FOREIGN CURRENCY NECESSARY FOR INDUSTRIALIZATION.

5. TOURE INSISTED THROUGHOUT SPEECH THAT HIS REMARKS NOT DIRECTED
AT ANYONE OR AT ANY COUNTRY, BUT WERE
DIRECTED AT CHANGING AN EXISTING ORDER THAT PERMITS
"TERRIBLE EXPLOITATION" OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THIS
MUST BE DONE THROUGH CHANGING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PRODUCERS
AND CONSUMERS VIA CONSULTATIONS. TOURE ALSO GOT IN DIGS
AT FOREIGN "CAPITALIST" PRESS COMMENT ON CONAKRY
CONFERENCE WHICH EVINced APPREHENSION ON PART OF CAPITALISTS
THAT CONFERENCE WOULD TRY UNILATERALLY TO SET PRICES.
HE ALSO RIDICULED STATEMENTS CLAIMING ALUMINUM COULD BE
PRODUCED FROM MINERALS OTHER THAN BAUXITE.

6. COMMENT: AS IS CASE WITH MOST OF PRESIDENT TOURE'S
SPEECHES, IT IS NECESSARY TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN WHAT IS
INTENDED AS STATEMENT OF PRESENT AND FUTURE POLICY AND
WHAT IS MERELY RHETORIC DESCRIBING TOURE VIEWS OF HISTORY
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AND HIS VISIONARY MARXIST DREAMWORLD. LEAVING ASIDE LATTER
IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT TOURE INTENDED TO CALM FEARS AND
ASSURE INVESTORS THAT HE STILL RECOGNIZES THEIR RIGHT OF
"JUST RETURN" ON THEIR CAPITAL. SPEECH IS ALSO AN AFFIRMATION
THAT GUINEA DOES NOT INTEND UNILATERALLY TO SET PRICES BUT
IS WARNING PRODUCERS THAT PRESENT PRICING SYSTEM IS
UNSATISFACTORY AND FUTURE PRICES WILL HAVE TO BE MADE
IN CONSULTATION WITH PRODUCING COUNTRIES. HE MADE NO
MENTION OF PRODUCTION CONTROLS AND MOST PROBABLY HAS NO
INTENTION AT THIS STAGE OF ADVOCATING THEM. AS FOR HIS ADVOCACY
OF TRANSFORMING BAUXITE INTO FINISHED ALUMINUM
PRODUCTS, THIS SHOULD GIVE NO PROBLEM TO INVESTORS IN
GUINEAN BAUXITE EXPLOITATION AS THEY HAVE ALREADY AGREED
TO DISCUSS THIS IN THEIR BASIC ACCORDS WITH GUINEAN GOVERNMENT.
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